

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET NW SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX
www.cfa.gov

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

18 December 2003

10:00 AM **CONVENE**, Suite 312, 401 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

I. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Approval of minutes: 20 November 2003
- B. Dates of next meetings: 15 January 2004
19 February 2004
18 March 2004
- C. Report on the U.S. Court of Military Appeals proposal for the installation of security bollards.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Federal Highway Administration

[CFA 18/DEC/03-1](#) , Pennsylvania Avenue, between 15th and 17th Streets, NW, and Jackson and Madison Places. Revised material samples. Final. (Previous: CFA 16/OCT/03- 1).

B. General Services Administration

- 1. CFA 18/DEC/03-2, E. Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse, Constitution Avenue and 3rd Street, NW. Perimeter security barriers. Final. (Previous: CFA 18/MAY/00-3).
- 2. [CFA 18/DEC/03-3](#), Mary E. Switzer Building. 330 C Street, SW. Alterations and additions for modernization. Design.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 18 December 2003

C. District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority

1. [CFA 18/DEC/03-4](#), Main Pumping Station and O Street Sewer Pumping Stations, Southeast Federal Center, 4th Street, SE. Alterations and additions. Concept.
2. [CFA 18/DEC/03-5](#), East Side Pumping Station. Anacostia Park, east of D.C. General Hospital. New sewer pumping station. Design.

D. District of Columbia Department of Transportation

1. [CFA 18/DEC/03-6](#), Georgetown Historic District, Way-finding sign program. Revised concept. (Previous: CFA 16/OCT/03- 15).
2. [CFA 18/DEC/03-7](#), Georgetown Business District, Wisconsin Avenue, NW. Streetscape Improvement Project. Phase II. Revised design. (Previous: CFA 20/MAR/03-6).

E. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Old Georgetown Act
 - a. [O.G. 04-31](#), 901 30th Street, NW, New mixed-use building. Revised concept for north building and landscape concept. (Previous: O.G. 03-133, CFA 22 Apr. 2003).
 - b. Appendix I.
2. Shipstead-Luce Act
 - a. [S.L. 03- 138](#), 2025 F Street, NW, (Square 103), George Washington University. New residence hall (dormitory). Revised concept. (Previous: S.L. 03-138, CFA 16 Oct. 03).
 - b. Appendix II.

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23 December 2003

Dear Mr. Teirkari:

During its meeting of 18 December, the Commission reviewed the Federal Highway Administration's submission for the final selection of paving materials for the redesign of Pennsylvania Avenue between 15th and 17th Streets, NW, in front of the White House, and for Madison and Jackson Places, NW, to the east and west of Lafayette Square. While the Commission did not have a quorum of members at the meeting, those that were present made a motion to approve the synthetic asphalt pavement as presented and the darker colored, 6" x 6", asphalt paving blocks. The motion for approval will be formally confirmed at the Commission's meeting next month.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Alan T. Teirkari
Federal Highway Administration
U. S. Department of Transportation
Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division
21400 Ridgetop Circle
Sterling, VA 20166-6511

cc: Michael Van Valkenburgh, MVV Assoc. Inc.
Jack Van Dopp, FHWA
Dan Tangerlini, DC DOT
John V. Cogbill, III, Chairman, NCPC
William Dowd, NCPC
Robert Baer, USSS

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23 December 2003

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 18 December, the Commission reviewed the proposed alterations and additions to the Mary E. Switzer Building at 330 C Street, SW. The members present commended the architect on the conservative design approach that is a logical extension of the existing building. While the Commission had no quorum at the meeting, the informal approval should be considered sufficient for proceeding with further design development. Future perimeter security measures should be pursued through a landscape alternative, rather than bollards, due to the extensive setback distance of the building.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project, including the security and landscape plan. As always, the staff is available should you require assistance.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Michael McGill
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination
General Services Administration
301 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20407-0001

cc: James T. Kienle, AIA, HNTB

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23 December 2003

Dear Marcotte;

During its meeting of 18 December, the Commission reviewed three projects submitted by the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority. These projects include: a concept design for a new equipment enclosure on the east side of the Main Pumping Station on 4th Street, SE; a concept design for new facades for the O Street, SE Pumping Station; and the final design for a new replacement East Side Pumping Station in Anacostia Park east of the D.C. General Hospital. While the Commission did not have a quorum of members at the meeting, those that were present made motions to approve each project as presented. Their motions will be formally confirmed at the Commission's meeting next month. In the meantime, we encourage your project teams to continue with the arrangements to build the new East Side Pumping Station, and to continue the development of the concept designs for the Main Pumping station equipment enclosure and the new facades for the O Street Station. For the two concept designs, we look forward to reviewing the final plans. Please submit these documents for review when ready and, as always, the staff is available should you or the design teams require additional guidance.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Michael S. Marcotte, PE, DEE
Deputy General Manager / Chief Engineer
District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority
5000 Overlook Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20032

cc: Bruce B. Beall, DCWASA
Barry Lucas, DCWASA
Brian T. McDermott, DMSS-III, WASA
Marshall Purnell, FAIA, Devroux & Purnell
Victor Wilburn, AIA, Victor Wilburn Architects
Sally Blumenthal, NPS

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23 December 2003

Dear Mr. Tangherlini:

During its meeting of 18 December 2003, the Commission met with Karyn Good to review two projects submitted by the District Department of Transportation: the revised scheme for the Georgetown Wayfinding Signs and the Wisconsin Avenue Streetscape. Even though the Commission did not have a quorum of members present, they appreciate the opportunity to comment on the projects at this time. Their recommendations will be forwarded to the full Commission for confirmation at the January 15, 2004 meeting.

The revised design and material selection for the Wayfinding Sign Program were well received. Porcelain-enameled metal signs will be easier to maintain and more cost effective to replace. White letters on black background will be easier to read, and the placement of the longer names on two lines will keep the signs manageable. We encourage you to continue your efforts to limit the installation of signs on existing lampposts, particularly where pedestrian traffic is already hampered by too many obstacles in the narrow sidewalks.

The approach to the Wisconsin Avenue Streetscape was also well received. Applying the design development of the M Street Project onto Phase II is a sensible approach. The height of the proposed lampposts should be as low as possible, using available technology to direct the light to the street, to avoid having to add too many additional posts. We are happy to see that business owners will be involved in the placement of the posts to avoid interfering with entrances where possible, but the spacing should be as regular as possible. The same care must be applied to the placement of new trees, where conditions allow. Every effort must be made to retain existing healthy trees. The one concern mentioned is achieving a balance on varying the brick patterns on the sidewalks. Too much uniformity will take away from the character as a historic district. However, excessive patchwork of brick patterns unrelated to the storefronts is to be avoided. We support the comments of the Old Georgetown Board and have attached a copy of their Report.

We are glad that DDOT has agreed to continue to work with the Commission, its Old Georgetown Board and the staff with regular informational reports and opportunities to comment as the project is implemented.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Atherton,
Secretary

Dan Tangherlini
Director, District Department of Transportation
2001 14th Street, NW 6th floor
Washington, DC 20009

cc: Karyn E. Good, Communications Manager, DDOT
Michelle Pourciau, DDOT
Ken Gray, Georgetown Business Improvement District
Jeff Lee, LAI, Lee and Associates
Ali Shakeri, WMATA
Thom Birch, ANC 2E
Barbara Zartman, CAG

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Dear Mr. Novak:

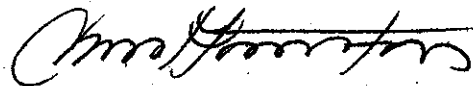
The Commission appreciated the opportunity to meet with you, the National Park Service, your architect, Arthur Cotton Moore, and Roger Courtenay, of EDAW Landscape Architects, at their meeting 18 December 2003 to review the Harborside Project at 901 30th Street, NW (O.G. 04-31). As you know, there was not a quorum at the meeting. As such, their recommendations will be forwarded to the full Commission for confirmation at the January 15, 2004 meeting.

The concept design for the landscape plan was well received and approved. It is an accomplishment to have all the various parties in agreement over the design approach. We understand the difficulties in implementing the conceptual landscape design previously shown as part of the House of Sweden. Maintaining the open lawn in front of the building will give it the visibility from the waterfront that it merits. The members were pleased with the park development on the north and east sides of the site that will eventually be part of the connection between the Waterfront Park and the Kennedy Center. We encourage the Corps of Engineers to cooperate as necessary in providing an appropriate setting for the walk along the Rock Creek.

The change to the lower level window on the north side of the House of Sweden is minor, and does not change the character of the approved concept design. The North Building had received an approval of the general concept design at the meeting in April. The alternative Option B, with its expression of the structure on the 30th Street facade, is dynamic and promising. This new approach was well received by both the Commission and its Old Georgetown Board. Its success will depend on careful detailing. Further development should be submitted directly to the Commission for its sole review.

As always, the staff is available to assist you as you develop one of these options into working drawings.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Alan Novak
Lano International
3050 K Street, Suite 201
Washington, DC 20007

cc: Arthur Cotton Moore
Peter Ohstedt, Swedish National Property Board
Gert Wingardh, Wingardh Architects
Roger Courtenay, EDAW
John Parsons, NPS

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Dear Ms. Honey:

During its meeting of 18 December, the Commission reviewed the proposed concept for a George Washington University residence hall to be located at 2025 F Street (S.L. 03-116). Although there was not a quorum enabling an official action, the members present have given conceptual approval for confirmation at the next meeting. The prominent side elevation requires further investigation and development as the project proceeds. In addition, special care should also be taken in the development of the signs, awnings and embellishments of the projecting bays, as they are the primary decorative elements of the design.

The Commission looks forward to the further review of this project. Please keep the staff informed of the project's progress in both design and zoning issues.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Ms. Michelle Honey, AIA
Director of Architecture, Engineering & Construction
George Washington University
2025 F Street, NW, Suite 215
Washington, DC 20052

cc: Richard A. Ayers, AIA, Ayers Saint Gross Architects